From: Robert Rutkowski [r_e_rutkowski@att.net]

Sent: 1/31/2018 2:53:05 PM

To: contactgov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7ce8741105614afe8a8cc762547a4b2c-contactgov]; Cooper, Roy A

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Subject: [External] NC Fails Residents by Approving Atlantic Coast Pipeline Permit

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Governor Roy Cooper Office of the Governor 20301 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-0301 Phone: (919)733-4240

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Re: NC Fails Residents by Approving Atlantic Coast Pipeline Permit

Dear Governor:

Friday, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) approved the Section 401 water quality certification for the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP). Responding: North Carolina's Department of Environmental Quality has failed North Carolinians by granting certification of the Section 401 water permit for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. The Atlantic Coast Pipeline presents severe threats to clean water, community rights, Indigenous sovereignty, environmental justice, and the climate.

For these reasons, thousands of North Carolinians have risen up in opposition to this dangerous pipeline, and those opponents are not going to rest easy until this pipelines is rejected outright. You will continue to hear loudly from North Carolinians opposed to this pipeline until this pipeline is scrapped once and for all. To show real environmental and climate leadership, you must break free from Duke Energy's grasp and protect North Carolinians by stopping the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

The additional 'restrictions' placed Friday by the DEQ are woefully inadequate to protect North Carolina's water and communities. The DEQ mandates the use of 'Horizontal Directional Drilling' to protect the Neuse River – yet this same drilling technique is so dangerous that it's resulted in state and federal regulators shutting down construction of two major natural gas pipelines just this month.

Simply put, the Atlantic Coast Pipeline is a boondoggle that imperils our climate and communities and must not be built. Friday the Department of Environmental Quality utterly failed to protect the water and people of North Carolina. Landowners, activists, and communities along the route of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline will continue to fight tooth and nail to make sure this dangerous, unnecessary pipeline is never constructed.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely. Robert E. Rutkowski, Esq.

cc: House Democratic Whip Office

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